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**THE BULLETIN**  
OF THE

**Diocesan Association for Western China**

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**DAY OF PRAYER AND GIFTS.**

You are warmly invited to take part in our Annual **Day of Prayer and Gifts** for work in the Dioceses of Eastern and Western Szechwan, which will be held (D.V.) on

**THURSDAY, MAY 25th, 1944.**

On that date, it is proposed to hold the

**ANNUAL MEETING of the D.A.W.C. at 6 p.m.**  
at the

**CHURCH MISSIONARY HOUSE, SALISBURY SQUARE, E.C.4.**  
(By kind permission of the C.M.S.)

It is hoped that the Chair will be taken by the **Rev. Preb. H. W. Hinde**, Chairman of the Association, and that, after presentation of the Audited Accounts for the year ended March 31st, 1944, and any other necessary business, periods of

**THANKSGIVING and INTERCESSION**

for the needs of the two Dioceses will be led by missionaries recently home from Western China.

The Annual Meeting will be preceded by a **Meeting of the General Committee at 5.15 p.m.**

Those who cannot attend in person are asked to spend some time during the day in special prayer for Western China, and to **send their gifts**, as God enables them, for the support of the work, to :

Miss F. HUGHES-HALLET (Org. Sec.),

Kienning, Woodcote Avenue,  
Wallington, Surrey.

## LETTER FROM BISHOP BEVAN.

Bishop's House,  
Chühsien,  
Szechwan,  
Free China.

10th January, 1944.

Dear Friends of the Diocese,

We have entered upon 1944, in which year we are assured by our leaders that, if we all fulfil our duties, we may see the end of the conflict in Europe. For this we thank God, but at the same time realise that no such assurance can be given in respect of the war in the Far East. But of this I am confident—that as China has carried on the conflict into the seventh year, so her people will bravely continue to the end.

The national trials and distresses are reflected in the Church in China. The past year has been a hard one for all our Chinese colleagues, but they have continued through much distress and in the face of many difficulties. Contributions from outside sources have not realised the same value as formerly and the purchasing power of the national currency has been falling throughout the year. Church contributions have been good, at least the figures have been high, though in value they seldom reach the value of five years ago. But of this I am sure, that on the whole people are giving fairly well; as at home, some of course at great sacrifice while some only give "of their abundance." Thank God we have managed for another year and none have had to give up their church work for other salaried employment, though I could well understand it if some did so. Do pray for our Chinese colleagues that they may realise that they are working for God and so be able to look directly to Him, and for their flock that they may have true sympathy with their needs. I am most concerned for those with growing children to educate.

During the year, Bishop Ku has kept mainly at home and must continue to do so, for he is not strong enough for the hard travel of these days. During the autumn Archdeacon Wang has been directing the work of the Northern Evangelistic team which has been at work in Nanchung. Archdeacon Ts'ai was able to visit a few of the parishes in the Eastern Archdeaconry and then, just before Christmas, returned to Pachung to his home. A letter written on his arrival told of the serious illness of his old father, but no further letter has come giving later news. This year he will be resting at home at his own charges, as he feels the need of "furlough" such as missionaries are able to have; a "sabbatic year" is a good idea and he has generously said

that to relieve church finances he does not need to receive his stipend, which will make it a little easier for us to meet other expenses. Probably Archdeacon Wang will travel round some of the parishes in his Archdeaconry this spring.

We do not get much news of church life at home, but one gathers that it is not by any means easy to carry out the previous programme of parish activities and with us it is just the same. In most places the Sunday services are the only regular activities and classes, prayer meetings and so on are very thinly attended. People are too busy to get away. They do not work regular hours. A living can be made by those who work really hard but it does mean unremitting toil. This all adds to the difficulty of pastoral work, while the fewness of our workers, Chinese and Missionary, means much more loneliness. Our fellow-workers need the gift of unshakable faith and constant courage. I am writing this on the day after the first Sunday after Epiphany, the collect of which leads us to pray that we, God's people, may both perceive and know the things we ought to do and "also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil the same." What we are taught to pray for for ourselves in the sphere of common duty, I would that you might ask for all of us in the matter of our work, that we may know what to do and then have the grace and power to carry it through. Continuity may by circumstances be denied to us, but may God give us constancy, to preach in season and out of season, buying up every opportunity which presents itself.

Of my own work I have little to say. The autumn saw me making a tour round the east end of the diocese after the China Inland Mission Council meetings in Chungking in October. From this tour I returned in the middle of December and at the beginning of February I start out again round the Northern Archdeaconry, finishing up with a visit to Chungking early in April. The cost of travel does not allow my wife now to go with me. This autumn she stayed at home and had a light attack of typhoid, from which she has now quite recovered, I am thankful to say.

During the next few months some of our missionaries will be going on furlough; Deaconess Mitchell, Misses White and Fearn will be leaving us soon, and Mr. and Mrs. Sadler in the late spring and others will follow. You will meet them, I trust, and hear something about us at first hand. Our furlough is long overdue but this is not the time for me to leave the diocese. It will be a great joy, when that time does come, to see you face to face in various parts of the old country, and to thank you for your prayers and the gifts which have so much lightened our financial burden.

Yours in Christ's Service,

K. G. BEVAN, Bp.

## LETTER FROM BISHOP MAXWELL.

Chengtu.

9th December, 1943.

Dear Friends,

Christian work in West China seventeen years ago reminded one of a number of people trying to push open a door that was only just ajar. The work to-day gives one the impression of an open door with far too few people to enter it, and many of those who might be expected to do so hindered by the terrible pressure of economic conditions or by inability to see this day of opportunity. This is no cause for pessimism. It is a challenge to prayer.

A week of evangelistic meetings were arranged at Lien Shan in October. A Baptist minister and I went from Chengtu; the Rev. Tang came from Tehyang; the Rev. Wang and Mrs. Ho from Hanchow; and Mr. Sherwood from Mienyang. More than half of this team of workers was laid miserably low the first day by having our vegetables cooked in varnish instead of the usual vegetable-oil. The taste was very much the same, but the effects completely justified the Chinese practice of using doses of varnish to cure opium-sots! There is a keen little Church at Lien Shan, the result of the splendid tent campaign and follow-up work that Archdeacon and Mrs. Donnithorne and their team did at this centre. At the end of every meeting it was most encouraging to see several of the Church-members exhorting non-Christians to believe in Christ.

Two significant events have recently occurred in Mienyang. The first was the baptism of the magistrate. So far as one knows this is the first occasion on which a magistrate has been baptised in this Diocese; and that he should be the magistrate of Mienyang is of added interest because this has long been a centre of official opposition to the Church. We do well to bear in mind, however, that with an increasing number of influential members of the Government becoming Christians, there has been a growing tendency on the part of minor officials to show their sympathy with the Church, even if they have not openly allied themselves with it. We shall be doing a valuable piece of work to pray that this magistrate may not be ashamed to associate openly with a fellowship at Mienyang that must seem to him very weak and insignificant. The second event was the holding of a meeting of all the leading officials of Mienyang in our Junior Middle School. Speaker after speaker genuinely praised the high standard of the work being done by the School and expressed the hope that in the near future we should be able to open a Senior Middle School as well. To one who had been partly instrumental in wresting these school buildings from the local authorities less than fourteen years previously it seemed a delightful change to listen to words of appreciation from their

more worthy successors. Such words should not blind us, however, to the great need of creating a more definitely Christian atmosphere in this School. There is now a happy spirit of co-operation between the Church and the School; Miss Belcher's life and witness have recently had some definite spiritual results.

A stay of four days at **Tehyang** gave one a clear impression of the difficulties as well as opportunities of this Church. A faithful piece of work is being done regularly in the Preaching-Hall every market day, but it is almost exclusively the farming class that is being reached in this way. Some method of reaching the townsfolk in the evening will have to be devised before a greater impression can be made on local people. The Rev. T'ang is making useful contacts with the students of Government schools in this centre, and it is encouraging to see about twenty of them come for Church services and to a Bible-Class on Sunday afternoons.

I have just returned from **Sintu**, which I visited with a Chinese Pastor from the Chengtu Theological College. We were both greatly impressed by the very fruitful work that Miss Jones is doing there among military officers from all parts of China. Her house is their home, and she is their mother. Twenty-six came for a Gospel talk one evening, and on the Sunday I had the privilege of confirming twenty who had been baptised there several months previously. The Sintu Church is confronted with very much the same problem as the Church in Tehyang. Very few townspeople are joining it. On two nights we opened the Preaching Hall and were delighted with the immediate response of a full Hall and attentive hearing. Five young fellows enrolled their names as desirous of studying the Christian message, and they were committed to the care of the local pastor.

**Chengtu** is the centre of Christian work in China in war-time; the concentration of Christian Universities, missionaries, and Chinese Church-leaders, make it so. From November 15th to 21st, special evangelistic meetings were held in the largest Church in the city and crowds attended. Interestingly enough the subjects of almost every address were sin and its effects, judgment, the need for repentance, and a brief reference to the promise of forgiveness and new life from Christ Jesus. This ethical challenge made a deep impression on many present, and some of the Churches, including St. John's, are likely to have an increased membership as a result of the campaign.

Many other interesting features of the work in Chengtu might be described, but I will confine my attention to a few final remarks on a "Conference for Discussing Post-War Plans," that was sponsored by the N.C.C. this last November. Judging by the discussions, Chinese Christians are asking for a united Church. They want more attention to be given to the training of Chinese leadership, and increased control

in the affairs of the Church. They hope that all Mission property can be handed over to the Chinese Church at an early date. And they have definite programmes for increased evangelism in town and country. It was quite stimulating to listen to the discussion and catch a view of the kind of Church that these enthusiasts had in mind for the future. Let us hope that it will brace us all up to meet the rising tide of problems that confront us in the present.

Your sincere friend,

ALEC MAXWELL,

Assistant Bishop, Western Szechwan.

In another letter, addressed to the Editor, Bp. Maxwell says:—

“Please express to the D.A.W.C. the deep gratitude of Bp. Song and myself for this extra gift of money towards our Discretionary Funds for 1943. It was urgently needed, and has reached us at a most opportune moment. I am afraid this means very real sacrificial giving on the part of the members of the Association. May this result in added blessing to the givers and the recipients.

“I know the Association will be much in prayer over the question of the shortage of workers during the next few years. Probably quite a number of missionaries will be asked by Conference and Synod . . . to take their furloughs without delay as they are already overdue. This will mean a big temporary loss to the work of the Church . . .”

#### **FURTHER LETTER FROM BISHOP MAXWELL.**

Chengtu.

March 30th, 1944.

Dear Friends of West China,

Mr. Horsburgh, the founder of the C.M.S. West China Mission, said that it was possible for a missionary to live here on £25 per annum. This was probably no exaggeration, for it was the amount that my board alone cost in 1926 when I first came to China, and the cost of living had already mounted in the intervening years. To-day, Chengtu, with the possible exception of Kunming, is the most expensive place in the world in which to live. The cost of living is already four hundred times what it was in 1937 and continues to soar. Rice is four shillings a pound, eggs are a shilling each, pork eleven shillings a pound, flour five shillings a pound, and the prices of other things are commensurate. Living in an even more simple way than in 1926, the cost of board alone now is about £1 12s. 0d. per day. The purchase of clothes, other than of those of missionaries going on furlough, is out of the question; and travelling has to be curtailed to a minimum. A lady missionary, for instance, who wanted to come in to Conference meetings, had to pay the equivalent of nearly £6 to travel thirty miles by means of that uncomfortable contraption the “two-pole-seat.”

The above figures may be of interest to the housekeeper, but they are given for other reasons in this letter. They are quoted in order to help you realise some of the colossal problems that confront us in these days. Let us think of two ways, among others, in which this financial situation affects the work. First of all it is impossible to maintain the full staff of Chinese workers and give them all a living salary. What we have done in this Diocese has been to give a retiring allowance to the less suitable of the workers, and then allow the others to supplement their salaries by teaching in Government Schools and in other ways. We did this with a great deal of misgiving at first, but now after four years we are glad to be able to report that the method has worked out much more satisfactorily than we had dared to hope. Secondly, we have ante-dated the furloughs of several missionaries who originally were expected to serve an extra year in these war-days. Allowing for those missionaries who were due in any case to go home now, we have about halved the missionary personnel in six months. This is a drastic step to take, but we believe it is justified on the assumption that some of those going now will be able to return at an earlier date and so relieve others overdue for furlough, and because every missionary in Western China is costing the C.M.S. the equivalent of several missionaries in other parts of the world. Whatever the sacrifice is, we must think in terms of the world-wide Church and its needs. This was the decision made at Conference last January, when Bishop Song was in the chair, and it was subsequently confirmed by Synod. One might reasonably have expected our Chinese colleagues to be filled with despair and misgiving about the future, but under Bishop Song's quiet courageous leadership the situation was accepted and resolutions made to face it through faith in Christ Jesus. With you at home, as with the diminished forces out here, there rests an added responsibility to see this matter through triumphantly.

I started my tour of the Diocese on March 4th, and hope to visit every centre and most out-stations in the course of three trips from Chengtu. Tehyang, Chongpa, Mienyang and Sintu have been visited already.

**Tehyang.** Like the Diocese, this Church will sadly miss the valuable help which Miss Fugl used to give. We all wish her God's blessing and comfort in her years of retirement. The Church at Tehyang has always been a difficult one to run, largely because of the materialism and superstition of the people in that area. The Rev. and Mrs. T'ang and Mrs. Wei are nobly carrying on and expect Mrs. Tai Kueh-Fang to join their number soon. I was impressed with the Men's Bible Class on Sunday mornings, the well-attended morning service, and the afternoon Bible Class for about forty students from a Government School in which Mrs. T'ang acts as Dean of Discipline. I was assured by her that the holding of that post did not make it any easier for her

to get students along on Sundays, in fact, it had the reverse effect ! Those who came, came for the fellowship and message. Tehyang needs an ordained missionary and his wife, both with evangelistic gifts, to help the Chinese pastor launch out on a campaign to reach the city people more effectively.

**Chongpa.** The same need can be stated for this centre also. I was amazed at the opportunities for evangelism in this important city. Here are the facts. For four nights in succession the pastor and local Christians (and there is quite a strong band of voluntary workers) organised meetings in their homes or on the street outside their shops, and attentive audiences numbering up to three hundred men and women gathered to listen. Personal work at the close of the meetings was done, names were enrolled, and people were reluctant to disperse long after the meetings were ended. Will the Chinese pastor be able to consolidate this work? Not easily, by himself. He needs a missionary to work shoulder-to-shoulder with him, encouraging him in this forward-movement work, and helping him to reach the more educated people in the city. Let us pray very definitely, therefore, that in the post-war years the right missionaries may be forthcoming for these two places, as well as for other places which will be mentioned later. Bearing in mind that the pastor is teaching twenty-four hours a week in Government Schools, and his wife teaching all day long in a primary school, in order to supplement their income sufficiently for the support of their family, it is extraordinary that the Church work has gone on so well, and that Mr. Chang and his wife have kept so keen in their Christian life. The local Christians are proud of a pastor who gives such a good example in a Government School of conscientious service, and who uses his position to influence others for Christ. We cannot but long for the day, however, when the Diocese will be able to give its workers an adequate salary, and every parish will have such a full programme of work that the energies of workers will be fully employed in direct pastoral and evangelistic service.

**Mienyang.** I spent two days in the city and six days at the rural church of Chin-Tze-Shan, some 25 li away. The Rev. Cheng and Mr. Sherwood had ably organised a Bible School at the latter place, and six classes were held daily for some twenty to thirty men and women who attended. Many of you will remember that this simple mud church with thatched roof was built by the Mienyang Churchwarden, Mr. Ch'üen, who had a dream that if the people in his old home did not repent of their sins they would all perish. Like an Old Testament prophet, he exhorted them to change their ways and believe in Christ. That was thirteen years ago. The Church has had many ups and downs since then, but as a result of this Bible School many of the nominal Christians have entered into a living experience of Christ. Those who heard this old Mr. Ch'üen give his witness at one of the closing meetings

will not forget the words: "I went hungry in order to build this Church," and "People said that I was foolish to leave the comforts of the plain where I once lived to come up into the hills and suffer bitterness. They don't know that I did it in order to look after this Church." His son and grandson are following in his steps, and with regular visitation this Church ought to become an increasing power for Christ in this area. Two of those who attended the School hope to build small churches in their district also. It may well be, therefore, that a new and spontaneous movement of God's Spirit is going on in our midst in days when financial limitations hamper the work in other directions.

Educational work is bristling with problems at present. Even Government Schools are unable to give their staff a living salary and wink at teachers taking two full-time teaching jobs at once. It is all the more credit to Mr. John Sung, Miss Belcher and the small staff of Christian teachers at the Middle School, Mienyang, that they have been able to hold on grimly to their work. The School has lost out spiritually, but that is not surprising. We must try our utmost to get another Christian teacher to help forward in the spiritual work that is waiting to be done. It was nice to see about fifty boys and girls come voluntarily from the School to the Church for a Bible Class I held there on the final evening of my stay, and to see the warm support the pastor is giving to religious work in the School. I was also encouraged to meet two students from the Government Sixth Middle School who are hoping to organise a Christian Fellowship in their school and invite the assistance of our pastor at their meetings.

**Sintu.** New life has come to this Church from two directions recently. Largely as a result of Deaconess Stewart's visit there last February, the pastor has decided to re-open the Preaching Hall on market days. His wife and the woman evangelist have been invited by some thirty to forty people to come weekly to their district to preach the Good News. Miss Jones continues with her excellent work among officers.

"Man shall not live by bread alone." In these words we have our Lord's challenge to the first paragraph of this letter. In an amazing way our physical needs are being met out here. Our greatest need is a fresh accession of spiritual power which will enable us to see and act at all times according to the Mind of Christ. Intercession, therefore, for us and the work, is the most vital contribution you can make. Your prayers can help us maintain a peaceful spirit under strain, and a confidence in Christ that brings conviction and power into all our ministry. We thank you warmly for this help.

Your sincere friend,

ALEC MAXWELL,

Assistant Bishop.

## STATION NOTES.

### Day 1. **Langchung.**

The answer to the prayers of many months was given in the autumn when Miss Wang, a Chinese Graduate nurse, joined the **Hospital** staff. She is fitting in well, being a keen Christian. Miss White is very pleased with the way in which her helper in the dispensary is developing both as a dispenser and in her spiritual life. Altogether there is a much better spirit amongst the probationers and junior nurses than there was in the spring and we do praise God for this as the training of these young lives in Christian service is not the least part of the work of the Hospital. Dr. Maddox wrote recently: "The general work of the place has continued to develop. . . . This year, we have a bigger number of nurses than ever previously and have quite a number of lectures for them on nursing and general subjects. They are quite a good crowd and, as previously, we are making a point of helping them to grow spiritually as well as learn nursing. Conversions among the patients have not been very numerous, but there have been several encouraging ones, some local people and some from more distant places. We have also had letters from some old patients—one, a man who was converted in Hospital about two years ago, lives three or four days' journey away and a day's journey from any church—he wrote about his continuance in reading the Bible and prayer, and asking for Christian literature."

The **Bible Institute** has only had one man student and three women this last term. Mr. Benson has been away doing special Bible teaching work at Shantung, near Chungking. The future of the Institute is a little uncertain after the summer term as it does not seem likely that there will be students forthcoming.

### Day 2. **Ts'ien-fuh-ch'ang.**

Four people have been prepared for baptism here. Praise God for this sign of life in this Church and pray on for greater things.

### Day 4. **Kwangyuan.**

Mr. Lloyd is the local secretary for the National Student Relief Committee, which helps students from the occupied provinces travelling to their centres of education. Some rooms on the premises have been fitted up as guest rooms and there is quite a stream of guests. This brings the workers in touch with students of all kinds and gives a real opportunity for friendliness, which goes so far in breaking down prejudice and opening the way for the Gospel. The Church is now entirely responsible for the Pastor's salary and also gave at Christmas towards evangelistic work. Christians from other provinces are numerous and make a big contribution to the life of the Church.

**Day 5. Pachung.**

Miss Wallis and Miss Ammonds have just been appointed to this Church and have already arrived to take up the work amongst women. This is a great cheer to Pastor Liao, who has been working on bravely by himself for so long. **Nanchiang** county has some Christians, but **Tungkiang** county is entirely untouched—would some take it upon their hearts for prayer?

**Day 6. Nanpu.**

Two interesting men were baptised here at Christmas. One an ex-Taoist priest who about two years ago first heard of the Gospel in the hospital at Langchung, and the other an old, well-placed gentleman, the fruit mainly of Bishop Ku's tea-shop work here over a year ago. The Young Peoples' meetings have been good—about 15 or so attending. The Sunday School flourishes.

**Futsunyi.** Miss Wilson has been appointed here, but with the appointment of Miss Wallis and Miss Ammonds to Pachung and the departure of Miss Fearn on furlough, the staff is rather depleted. Rev. David Hsü has worked hard and there is real life in the Churches. Mr. Chang Hsuen-t'ang was ordained deacon at Easter and they have a plan for dividing the pastorate into two which would be all to the good if more workers come forward and could be supported locally. Mrs. Yü and Miss Ho continue their work amongst the women and dispensary patients.

**Day 7. Yingshan.**

The great need of this pastorate is for a full-time ordained Chinese pastor. The matter of his support is the difficulty. Please pray that the Christians may take this question seriously and not just drift along waiting for a missionary to be appointed. Miss Parsons continues her work amongst the women. Mr. and Mrs. Hannah have been spending the winter here and have been a help to the city work.

**Day 8. Nanchung.**

Last Autumn two members of the Northern Evangelistic team visited this pastorate. Good work was done in the city, the meetings being well attended and over thirty gave in their names as wishing to believe. These are to be invited to regular Bible classes. Four students who have been in Mr. Harris' English class have testified to having been converted and it is his hope to start a Young Peoples' Fellowship for such as these. Mr. Harris asks prayer specially for two of these English students. One, Mr. Chu, he feels really believes, and "is only awaiting decision pending the settlement of the old difficulty, 'I haven't the strength to be a Christian' . . . he will soon be leaving here to go to the University. The other, Mr. Ching, lives 50 li away and is now reading the N.T. fairly regularly. I believe the Lord is preparing him

for Himself too. My teacher, Mr. Yang, a Hankow graduate teaching in a local school, has formerly been rather opposed to the Gospel, but I believe, through our talks together, the Lord has begun to break down the opposition. Please pray for these friends." The city work abounds in opportunities amongst the more educated, but the country churches and country Christians have also been helped by the visits of the two Evangelists, Mr. Keo Tien-t'ai and Mr. Chen Wei-chen.

**Day 9. Kwangan.**

While regular preaching and visiting and prison work has been carried on by the missionaries and the Mission-supported Chinese workers, the city Church in itself is very weak and has no organised Church council to take responsibility. Please pray for this, that there may be raised up local Christians with whom the missionaries may co-operate. Work amongst schoolboys and girls in the city has been encouraging and regular weekly Bible classes have been held. A house-party for boys is being held this month and Archdeacon Wang has asked to be the special speaker. Please pray for the lads already converted and ask for many more.

**Day 12. Chühsien.**

Pastor Chang hopes to be able to return to full-time Church work and plans to bring his family to live in the city once more. Lack of accommodation through the destroying of the Church premises by the air raid in 1940, has meant that Mrs. Chang and the children have had to live in the country these past three years. The Christians are planning to start the rebuilding of the Church premises this year. Please pray that not only may the Church building be successfully raised but that believers may be added to the spiritual body. Miss Lan has been living for some months at the market of Ch'ing-ch'i-ch'ang. The Church has not been very flourishing owing to serious quarrelling in the family of the leading Christians, but things are better now and it is hoped that her continuing there will prove a real blessing to the believers.

**Day 13. Tachu.**

Mr. and Mrs. Sadler hope to go on furlough this year; please pray that the Church, which will probably be left without missionary help, may rise to the occasion and carry on regular classes and preaching as well as the Sunday services. There is a sad lack of unity amongst the Christians just at present; we do long to see this trouble entirely healed.

**Day 14. Tahsien.**

The city Church is working hard to establish an endowment fund and they hope to be able to support their own Chinese worker by next year.

**Süanhan.** The work in this pastorate is encouraging. The Christians have invited and support their own worker, a graduate from our Bible Institute, Mr. Kueh T'ai-hsui. On Christmas Day a new centre in a village named Ch'ang-ch'i was formally opened for Church services, when ten people were baptised and eleven "received" for further teaching. The work there is only a few years old but the group of believers seem to be well established. The Eastern Evangelistic team is working in this area this winter.

**Day 15. Wanyuan.**

Mr. Skinner was able to visit here last November for the first time for two years. He found the few Christians bright and smiling despite difficulties. A keen young man, who has been acting as the Tahsien Parish secretary, has been offered a post in the local government and the Church has welcomed him to be their leader, which would be a very great help to them.

**Day 16. Liangshan.**

Here they are also preparing to support a Chinese worker and correspondence is in progress as to who shall be appointed.

**Tienkiang.** The lawsuit over the property bought by the Christians for a church building is not yet settled, but it is hoped that it soon may be. Mr. Williamson is now without a full-time Chinese fellow-worker, Mr. Kueh having left, but the Women's Missionary Service League hope to support their own Biblewoman. Brigandage is still bad in this county but some of the country churches are making progress.

**Day 17. Kaihsien.**

This Church is now supporting two young lady workers and another Evangelist in addition to the two clergy and two Evangelists they already had. It is hoped during this year that the **Wentangtsing** Church will be organised within the framework of the Kaihsien pastorate at **Linkiangshih** has now been. The "Temporary Hospital" run by Dr. and Mrs. Gray has had many patients and at least two converts amongst the in-patients. The Grays are doing itinerant medical evangelism and thereby reaching people who might otherwise keep clear of a preacher of the Gospel.

**Day 18. Wanhsien.**

The work here continues to be almost entirely amongst "refugees." There were several candidates confirmed in November; two or three were prevented from coming owing to an air raid warning. The Church has just suffered the loss, by death, of Mr. Chao Hsü-ch'in, a very keen Christian from the Hankow diocese who has been churchwarden for about five years.

**Day 19. Fengkieh.**

Mr. T. M. Orr has been appointed to take oversight of the work

in this pastorate. In Fengkieh city a Mr. Lo-an, ex-worker from the Hankow Diocese, is living and acts as voluntary leader. A special feature of the work there is a prayer meeting held every day at dawn, attended by about ten who live near at hand.

In Yunyang city there are very few Christians and no leader, but at Yuin-an-ch'ang there is a live little Church. At Nanch'i nearby there are a number of Christians but these lack a local leader and have to rely on help from Yuin-an-ch'ang. Mr. Orr is, however, encouraged to feel that one of the Nanch'i men may perhaps be developed into a local leader, which would be a great help to them.

### WOMEN'S WORK IN WESTERN SZECHWAN.

During this year it has been my privilege to travel round the Diocese, staying a few weeks in each parish, to get a general view of the women's work over the whole district and to help in any way possible. It has also been a great joy to be able to gather the Biblewomen for a week's special meetings at Hanchow—the first time we have had such a gathering for five years, owing to war conditions and the enormous increase in cost of travelling. The women will not easily forget this week of rest and refreshment. They arrived at Hanchow on November 10th, and were given a happy welcome by the people of the local Church. The main theme for the week was the Kingdom of God, and talks were given by the Rev. G. V. H. Elliott, the Rev. C. S. Wang, Mrs. Elliott, Deaconess Cheo and myself. Several discussions were held in the afternoons when the women brought forward their own particular local difficulties and gave reports on their work. Each evening the women joined in with whatever meetings were in progress in the local Church, which is very alive and keen and where a warm, happy atmosphere of Christian fellowship exists. This Church has in its congregation a group of about forty or fifty people who turn up to any kind of meeting which is announced, and among them there is a considerable number who can be relied upon to take some active part in the proceedings if necessary. The Preaching Hall is comfortably full on most evenings of the week, and on the evening when an evangelistic service is held, it is crowded. It is quite inspiring to hear them sing. Many Scripture portions have been set to Chinese tunes, which are pentatonic and easily learnt. The leader has only to give the Scripture reference, when somebody starts the tune and away they go with great vigour and enjoyment. The life and energy of this Church is largely due to the devoted work of Archdeacon and Mrs. Donni-thorne and a band of Chinese helpers who lived there for several years. All these have left, but the work goes on under the efficient leadership of the Rev. C. S. Wang. The Biblewomen separated to go back to their various parishes on November 18th, and the next day

I came on to **Tehyang**. I was glad to be here for the Week of Witness, which culminated on Sunday, November 28th, when the Church congregation was considerably swelled by numbers of students who came from the local School for Shantung Refugee Students. They had been brought along by some of their friends who are Christians. During the service several people spoke, including two of these students who had come through great hardships and who told what Christ had been to them in the trials through which they had passed. During one of the week-night meetings a boy of sixteen from the other Government School in the town also told what it meant to him to be a Christian. He spoke very simply and said only a few sentences; but on inquiry afterwards I found that he has really endured a lot of persecution in his home and is making a valiant stand for Christ. He was won by his elder brother, and the two were constant companions, but last year his brother was drowned and this was a great trial to his faith.

In a few days I go to **Chongkiang**, for which place I have a special affection, as it was my first station in China, and there I hope to spend Christmas amongst many friends.

During my tour I have also been given the opportunity of holding special meetings for Church members at **Mienyang** and **Chongpa**. At the latter place it was good to be the guest of my old friends, the Rev. Chang Po-Ai and his wife, whom many of our readers will remember. Mr. Chang has good contacts with one of the local schools, and many of the girls came to see me while I was there. Mrs. Chang is as indefatigable as ever and K'ang Seng, their second son, who had a consumptive leg, is now able to get about quite well on crutches, and, apart from his useless leg, seems very well. E. L. STEWART.

### PERSONAL NOTES.

**Miss Ruth Dix** has offered for the pioneer work amongst the unreached Independent Lolo tribe in Western Szechwan, to which Dr. and Mrs. Broomhall had already been called. She expects to leave Eastern Szechwan after the summer; and while the Diocese is very sorry to lose these workers, it is believed that their response to this call will mean the quickening of missionary interest throughout it.

It is good to be able to report that, after two years in plaster, **Mr. Derbyshire's** ankle is completely healed and he hopes before long to be able to resume his work among the Chühsien country Churches.

**The Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Rudd** have now been located to Hanchow. Their small daughter was born on Boxing Day.

**Dr. and Mrs. Norman Parfit** are now on their way to America.

**Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Jenkins** are reported to have arrived in India en route to England. The **Rev. and Mrs. G. H. Elliott** were hoping to leave for furlough in March. The **Rev. and Mrs. E. A. Sadler** are also reported to be on their way home.

**Miss B. Hensman** is in America, and writes that she has been asked to give a course of background lectures on Free China to the American Army Special Training Group in Chicago University.

**Archdeacon and Mrs. Donnithorne** have both undergone serious operations recently, but are now convalescing.

**Miss Mitchell** is on her way home for furlough. She was much better when she left China, she is expected any time.

**Miss Fearn**, from Fu Tsun-yi, has arrived safely in England for furlough.

The **Rev. C. B. and Mrs. Hannah** are leaving China very soon. They are returning to England. Mrs. Hannah was much improved in health.

The **Rev. T. E. Lloyd** has been convalescent after recent attacks of typhoid. Furlough is granted to Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd.

Others granted furlough are **Miss E. M. Sanderson**, the **Rev. and Mrs. Ellison**, **Miss White**, the **Rev. and Mrs. Iliffe**.

The **Rev. Maxwell Orr** has been appointed to Wanh sien, to superintend work in that and in Kweifu area.

**Miss M. Wallis** and **Miss Ammonds** are now in Pachow, so that **Miss H. Wilson** is alone at Fu Tsun-yi.

## **PRAYER CYCLE.**

### **EASTERN SZECHWAN:**

Day.

1. LANGCHUNG (PAONING). TANISHAN.
2. TS'IENT-FUH-CH'ANG.
3. ILUNG, TSANGKI, KIENKOH.
4. KWANGYUAN, CHAOHWA.
5. PACHUNG (PACHOW), NANCHIANG, TUNGKIANG.
6. NANPU, FU-TSUN-I, YENTING.
7. YINGSHAN, CHOWKOW.
8. NANCHUNG (SHUNKING), HSICHUNG.
9. KWANGAN.
10. YOCH'IH.
11. KUAN-IN-KOH, LINSHUI.
12. CHUHSIEN, WU-CHIA-CH'ANG.
13. TACHU.
14. TAHSIEN, SUANHAN.
15. WANYUAN, CHENGKOW.
16. LIANGSHAN, TIENKIANG.
17. KAIHSIEN, WEN-T'ANG-TSING, LIN-KIANG-SHIH.
18. WANHSIEN.
19. FENGKIEH (KWEIFU), YUNYANG, YUIN-AN-CH'ANG.

### **WESTERN SZECHWAN:**

20. MOWCHOW.
21. P'ING-WU (LONGAN), KIANGYU.
22. CHONGPA.
23. MIENYANG (MIENCHOW).
24. ANHSIEN.
25. MIENCHU. SHIHFANG.
26. TEHYANG.
27. HANCHOW (KWANGHAN).
28. SINTU.
29. CHONGKIANG.
30. CHENGTU.
31. UNOCCUPIED PLACES.

## **SPECIAL SUBJECTS FOR THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION.**

### **LET US THANK GOD**

For Mrs. Bevan's recovery from typhoid fever; and for answered prayer in the complete healing of Mr. Derbyshire's ankle.

For God's blessing on the special evangelistic campaigns in Lienshan, Chengtu and Nanchung, and on the Biblewomen's meetings at Hanchow.

For encouragement in the Mienyang Schools.

For the magistrate, students and others recently baptised and witnessing to their faith.

For His provision of a graduate nurse for the Langchung Hospital.

### **LET US PRAY.**

That Archdeacon Ts'ai's "sabbatic year" at home may be for him a time of spiritual growth as well as bodily refreshment. For all our Chinese fellow-workers in the great strain of present economic difficulties.

For the safe return of all missionaries coming on furlough and that God will make them a blessing to all with whom they come in contact; for those still on the field who are bearing extra burdens on account of the shortage of workers.

That the Mienyang magistrate may not be ashamed to acknowledge his connection with the Church; and for the students in Mr. Harris' English class and his language teacher, for whom he asks special remembrance.

That it may soon be possible to take the Gospel message into Tungkiang county. For the special needs of the Church in Tachu; and that all the Churches may realise and be ready to accept their responsibility for supporting their own workers.

For complete recovery for Archdeacon and Mrs. Donnithorne.

For God's blessing on the Day of Prayer and Gifts; for those who will lead intercessions at the Annual Meeting; and that He will use the Diocesan Association increasingly for the help and support of His work in Western China.



